BRITISH COLUMBIA
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BCStats

Infoline

Contact: bcstats.infoline@gov.bc.ca Issue: 09-08 February 27th, 2009

- **Private and public sector investment expected to fall 7.2% in 2009**
- **Retail sales drop 5.6% in December; annual figure virtually unchanged from 2007**
- **Visitor entries down for fourth year in a row**

Private & Public Investment

- **Private and public sector investment in British Columbia is expected to decline 7.2% this year.** Spending by the public sector is forecast to drop 4.9%, a substantial turnaround from the double-digit growth levels seen in recent years (public sector investment jumped 27.4% in 2008). Private sector establishments predict that investment will fall 7.9% this year, more than reversing the 5.2% increase in 2008.

  Total investment in construction (*both residential and non-residential*) projects is forecast to slide 7.0%, largely due to a planned 8.0% decrease in private sector spending. For the first time since 2001, spending by the public sector, which has been boosted by pre-Olympic projects, is expected to shrink (-3.5%). (*Note: these estimates are based on survey data collected between October and January, so they do not include recently announced public sector infrastructure projects.*)

  Investment in new machinery and equipment is anticipated to decrease 7.8%, with declines in both private (-7.5%) and public (-9.0%) sector spending.

  Nationally, investment is expected to drop 5.4%. Alberta (-14.0%) and New Brunswick (-8.6%) are forecast to see the biggest declines.

  Data Source: Statistics Canada

The Economy

- **Retailers in BC ended the year on a low note, as sales decreased 5.6% (*seasonally adjusted*) in December.** The decline over the holiday shopping month pushed overall sales to their lowest levels since February of 2006. Nationally, retail sales slumped (-5.4%).

  Data Source: Statistics Canada

- **In December, there were 49,790 recipients of regular employment insurance (EI) benefits in the province, up 5.3% (*seasonally adjusted*) from the previous month.** Nationally, the number grew 4.9% as every province saw increases.

  Data Source: Statistics Canada

Tourism

- **The number of international travellers entering Canada via BC fell (-2.3%, *seasonally adjusted*) in December.** There was a significant drop (-2.4%) in the number of US entries, as fewer same-day (-7.6%) and overnight (-0.5%) trips by Americans were recorded. Overseas visits also declined (-0.5%) despite an influx of visitors from Asia (+3.8%). Entries from Europe (-0.2%) and other countries (-8.8%) were down from November.

  Data Source: Statistics Canada & BC Stats

2008 in Review

- **Retail sales in the province inched up (+0.2%) in 2008, the lowest annual increase since 1998, when sales weakened 2.3%.** New car dealers saw a double-digit slip for the year, while many others, such as computer & software (-4.5%), furniture (-4.4%), and convenience (-3.4%) stores, also saw sales drop off. On the other hand, increased sales among other retailers, including those of beer, wine & liquor (+4.1%), home electronics (+6.0%) and particularly gasoline (+9.8%) managed to offset the declines. Nationally, annual retail sales were up 3.2% with activity increasing in all provinces, except Alberta (-0.2%). Saskatchewan (+10.4%) posted the most notable increase in 2008.

  Data Source: Statistics Canada

- **During 2008, the volume of lumber produced at BC sawmills fell 23.1%, to 2.3 million cubic**

Report British Columbia's Economy: Then and Now

Did you know...
As RRSP deadline approaches, one quarter of Canadians with retirement savings are 'anxious' (19%) or 'panicking' (5%). *Source: Ipsos Canada*

metres. Production at Coastal mills plunged 18.8%, while in the Interior, where the mountain pine beetle has been ravaging forests, production was down even more substantially (-23.7%). Output at Canadian sawmills also declined (-20.5%) last year. *Data Source: Statistics Canada*

- **Total travel to BC from abroad decreased 8.9% in 2008, the fourth straight year in which visitor entries have fallen.** Accounting for most of the visitors to the province, American entries to BC fell 11.6%, likely as a result of the combined pressures of a stronger Canadian dollar and continued uncertainty regarding economic conditions south of the border. The number of same-day entries dropped 15.6% in 2008 while overnight stays were down 9.5%.

  Conversely, the number of overseas entries to BC went relatively unchanged last year (+0.1%). While the number of visitors from Asia (-3.8%) and Europe (-1.0%) decreased there were more travellers from other countries (+10.0%). *Data Source: Statistics Canada & BC Stats*

- **Farm cash receipts in BC were up 5.6% in 2008, marking the second straight year of steady growth.** Livestock sales surged (+10.1%) and revenue growth from crops was also solid (+1.6%), though comparatively moderate. Subsidies and other payments to farmers were lower (-1.6%) than in 2007, as payment compensation related to the avian flu scare of 2004 continued to be phased out.

  Farmers of turkeys (+18.9%), hens & chickens (+15.1%), eggs (+12.6%) and dairy (+11.0%) recorded double-digit growth in 2008, while cattle (+7.7%) farmers also received more from sales. Producers of floriculture, fruits, potatoes and hay accounted for much of the increase in crop receipts. *Data Source: Statistics Canada*

Early Childhood Learning

- **Most Canadian parents (73%) report permitting their young children (aged 2-5) to watch television, videos and DVDs for more than one hour per day.** However, where playing video/computer games is concerned, only 20% of parents allow their children more than one hour per day. Interestingly, parents whose children have not attended any form of child care are more likely to get out and use libraries, museums and parks than parents whose children regularly attend child-care services.

  With regard to school-aged children, less than half (45%) of Canadians believe elementary and high schools are meeting or exceeding their overall expectations with respect to preparing students for work. This was a significant decrease since 2007, when 51% Canadians expressed satisfaction with their children's education. Respondents born outside of Canada are generally more satisfied with elementary and high schools in Canada than those born in Canada.

  Data Source: Canadian Council on Learning

The Nation

- **Prices for Canadian manufactured products were higher in January (+1.2%), compared to the same month of last year.** BC softwood lumber prices continued to climb, up 7.1% overall. However, pulpwood chip prices were lower than in January 2008.

  Data Source: Statistics Canada

- **Canadian corporations earned higher profits in 2008 (+5.4 to $283.6 billion), despite substantive declines over the fourth quarter.** Boasting an annual increase of more than 40%, the oil & gas extraction industry accounted for a significant proportion of the overall profit gain in non-financial industries. However, in the financial services sector, profits were down, with banks registering a 20.2% decline in profits last year. *Data Source: Statistics Canada*

- **The Canadian balance of international payments in current transactions slipped into a deficit situation in the fourth quarter, for the first time since 1999.** A lower goods surplus, driven by declining export volumes and falling prices, contributed to this situation.

  During the last quarter of 2008, amidst fear of economic downturn, Canadian investors removed an unprecedented $15.5 billion of foreign securities from their portfolios.

  Data Source: Statistics Canada

***Infoline** Issue: 09-08*
February 27th, 2009

For data originating from Statistics Canada, data sourced to 'Statistics Canada' has been retrieved from CANSIM, the agency's electronic database; otherwise the source is identified as 'SC' plus the catalogue number.

Infoline Report

Contact: Lillian Hallin
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By Hayley Cavallin; originally published in
Business Indicators Issue 08-12

British Columbia's Economy: Then and Now

As British Columbia's 150th year draws to a close, BC Stats reflects on the province's historical economic dependence on the extraction of natural resources. Additionally, we examine how the structure of the economy has changed over time.

History

The Colony of British Columbia was officially created by the British government in 1858, when it was declared a crown colony in British North America. In 1866, it was united with the Colony of Vancouver Island to become British Columbia. With the promise of a transcontinental railway, British Columbia entered into Confederation in 1871.

While some areas had been established as fur trading posts, with forts and settlements including Fort Kamloops (built in 1812), Fort Langley (1827) and Fort Victoria (1843), the discovery of gold on the Fraser River in 1858 brought an influx of residents to British Columbia.

Population

The Fraser River gold rush, followed by the Cariboo gold rush in 1862, attracted an estimated 30,000 - 50,000 residents to BC. Many arrived from California, which had just experienced its own gold rush. Fort Victoria's population expanded from 500 to about 20,000 as eager gold seekers arrived to obtain their mining licenses.

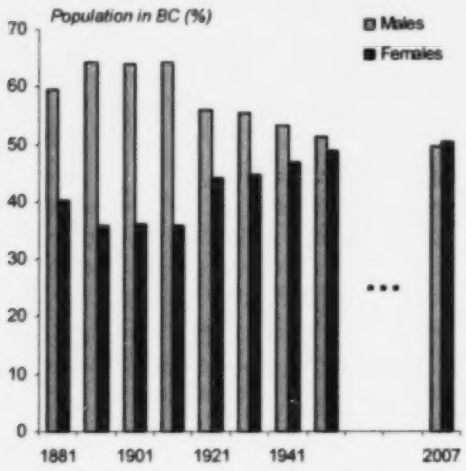
Following the initial boom of the gold rushes, the population in 1871 sharply declined to 36,000, comprising less than 1% of the Canadian total. During the twentieth century, the provincial population has steadily increased and currently stands at 4.4 million, or 13% of all Canadians.

British Columbia's population has expanded more than the Canadian population

Data source: Canada Year Book (1900) and Statistics Canada

As a mineral and resource rich province, undeveloped at the turn of the twentieth century, it is not surprising that the majority of immigrants arrived in British Columbia, seeking out employment in the mining and logging industries. Given the predominance of these "male occupations," male immigrants outnumbered females nearly two to one. Gradually, the female population grew and by 2007 it comprised half of provincial total.

From a low of 35%, women now make up about half the population



Data source: Canada Year Book (1900) and Statistics Canada

Transportation

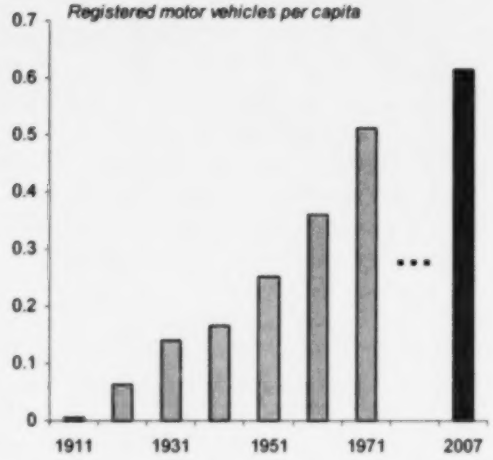
Developments in technology and transportation played a vital role in the expansion of British Columbia's economy. The establishment of railway, shipping, and road systems enabled the province to become a primary exporter of resources entering into the twentieth century.

The completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) in 1885 provided a significant boost for the local economy, facilitating provincial trade with the rest of Canada. Meanwhile, the harbours, particularly those in Victoria and Vancouver, linked British Columbia with international markets.

The British government invested millions of dollars towards BC's roads and bridges during the 1860s. The Cariboo Wagon Road was designed by the Royal Engineers for easy access to the gold fields. The 600 kilometre road connected Yale, Lytton, Clinton, Soda Creek, and Quesnel to Barkerville, the largest town and the hub of the gold rush at the time.

Automobiles were uncommon until about 1910, at which time there were just over 1,000 registered motor vehicles in the province. By BC's centennial, modern highway systems replaced unpaved streets and there were about half a million motor vehicles registered. Today 2.7 million vehicles travel on BC's roads, that's about two cars for every three residents.

Motor vehicles per resident increased steadily throughout the twentieth century



Data source: Statistics Canada

Starting in 1901, the CPR ran a ferry service that transported British Columbians between downtown Vancouver and Victoria in about five hours. It wasn't until 1960 that BC Ferries began operating, with only two ships and about 200 employees. The service provided a quicker and more reliable service between Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland.

Forestry

Historically, the forest industry has played a foundational role in British Columbia's economy. However, it was not until the gold rush slowed and CPR construction was well under way that forestry became a vital contributor to the provincial economy. Starting primarily on the coast, the logging industry was well established by 1871.

Initially, BC exported lumber mainly to Australia, Hawaii, Chile, and China. As CPR construction continued into the 1880s, the domestic demand for timber increased, leading to an expansion of the scope of the forest industry into the southern interior of the province. However, once railway construction was finished, forestry slowed considerably until the 1890s.

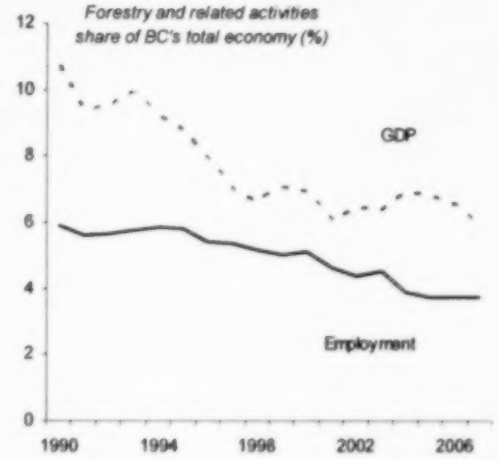
BC's first pulp mill was built in the Alberni Valley in the 1860s. The Pioneer Mill followed in June of 1863, and was the first industrial plant on the north shore of Burrard Inlet. However, operations at the Pioneer Mill were short-lived due to high costs and expenses. By 1866, Moody's Mill took over and remained BC's chief export centre for twenty years. In 1870, the mill employed roughly 200 people as mill workers, loggers and longshoremen. Pulp production began in 1909, and flourished with the introduction of three new plants over the next few years.

Fifty years ago, BC had the highest value of wood products provincially, accounting for 37% of the national total value. BC lumber production was even more substantial, making up over two-thirds of the Canadian production.

The forest industry has suffered since the 1990s due to the softwood lumber dispute, the slumping US housing market, and the Mountain Pine Beetle. Although wood products remain British Columbia's most important export commodity, they account for a substantially smaller proportion of the province's total exports than in decades previous. Between 1998 and 2007, BC's share of total export value attributed to wood products, along with pulp and paper products, decreased from 52% to 39%.

In October 2008, the province accounted for just under half of Canadian lumber production. Forestry and related activities (including forestry and logging, wood product manufacturing and paper manufacturing) now employ less than 4% of working British Columbians, down from 6% in 1990. Similarly, the share of total GDP attributed to forestry and related activities has fallen from 11% to 6% over the same time period.

Forestry and related activities have dropped substantially since the 1990s



Data source: Statistics Canada

Mining

Production of coal

On Vancouver Island, the discovery of coal in the 1840s preceded the Fraser River gold rush. Once discovered, the production of coal grew at a rapid pace from about 100,000 tons in 1874 to almost 2 million tons by 1901. Consequently, the province's share of Canadian coal production grew from 9% to 28%. Coal was often used to power steamships, although about two-thirds of production was exported rather than consumed domestically.

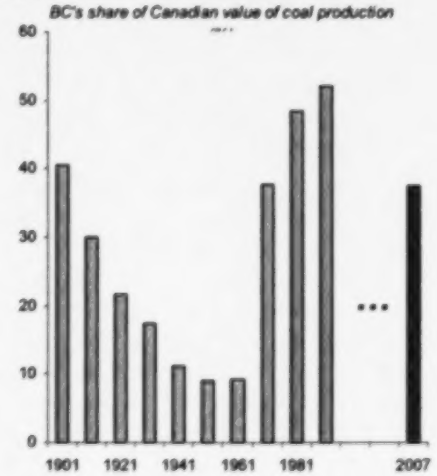
BC coal production took off before the twentieth century

Data source: Canada Year Book (1900)

During the first half of the twentieth century the coal mining industry slowed across Canada. In BC, production plummeted about 50% in the 1950s alone. By 1958, provincial coal production comprised only 7% of the national total.

BC's coal mining industry saw a resurgence in the 1960s due to high demand from Japanese steelmakers. The industry continued to thrive throughout the rest of the twentieth century. By 2007, provincial coal production accounted for 37% of the national total.

Coal production in BC rebounded in the second half of the twentieth century



Data source: Natural Resources Canada

Coal is currently the second most important resource export for British Columbia, next to wood products. Major coalfields include those in the Kootenay and Peace River regions.

Production of gold

Nearly 150 years ago, the impact of the Fraser River gold rush on British Columbia's economy was substantial, although short-lived. While the discovery of gold led to important infrastructure investments, such as the Cariboo Wagon Road, poor spending practices left the province with crippling debt by the time the gold rush subsided.

The value of gold production (mostly in the Cariboo region) in 1862 was $2.7 million, accounting for almost all (95%) of Canadian production value. Documents from a large mining town in Dease Creek indicate that a typical gold miner earned about $10 per day.

Slowly, other provinces and territories, particularly the Yukon District (which at the time was part of the Northwest Territories), became frontrunners in the gold mining industry and by 1901, BC's share of the Canadian value of gold production fell to 23%.

Following the gold rush, BC's share of Canadian gold plummeted

Data source: Canada Year Book (1900)

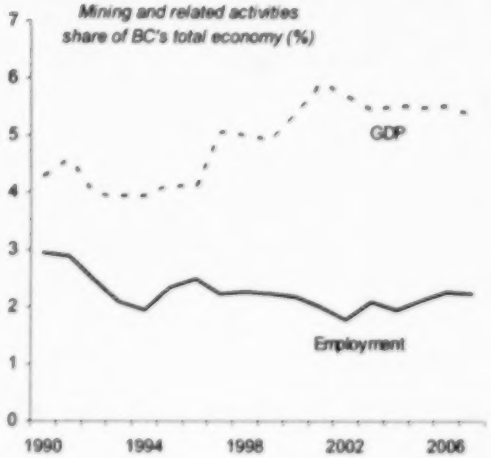
Relative to production in the rest of Canada, gold production in BC has fluctuated throughout the twentieth century. While it diminished between the 1950s and 1970s, representing just 4% of total Canadian production in 1971, the share had increased to 12% by 2007.

BC gold production has rebounded since the 1950s

Data source: Natural Resources Canada

Overall, BC's mining industry faced challenges throughout the 1990s, due to low product prices. However, GDP growth attributed to mining and related activities (including oil and gas extraction, and production of petroleum, coal, non-metallic mineral, and primary and fabricated metal) has been strong in recent years and currently contributes just over 5% of total GDP. Meanwhile, the number of individuals employed in this industry has declined slightly since 1990, making up just over 2% of British Columbia employment in 2007.

Mining and oil and gas extraction GDP is up since 1990



Data source: Statistics Canada

Exports of metallic mineral, fabricated metal, and energy products have increased substantially so far in the twenty-first century, comprising 34% of total export value by 2007, up from 21% in 1998. Copper accounts for two-thirds of current metal production, followed by gold (10%). Coal still comprises a substantial portion of BC fuel production, although natural gas accounts for the bulk.

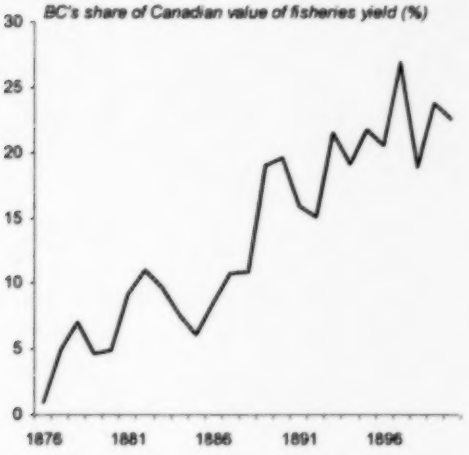
Fishing

Long before Europeans settled in British Columbia, salmon fishing provided sustenance for the First Nations people. Once the province joined the rest of Canada, the commercial fishing industry became an important source of economic growth.

British Columbia's commercial canning industry began to take form on the Fraser River, where about 2000 salmon filled 300 cases of cans during the summer of 1871. Ten years later, 42,000 cases were shipped and a year later, that number tripled. The two largest canneries, the Victoria Canning Company and the Anglo BC Canning Company, controlled over 60% of Fraser River production. The completion of CPR construction enabled the province to ship frozen fish to eastern Canada and the US.

BC's fishing industry expanded dramatically in the last decades of the nineteenth century. The total yield of fisheries in the province increased from just over $100,000 in 1876 to almost $5 million in 1900. Consequently, BC's share of Canadian fishery value shot up from less than 1% to 23%.

BC's fishing industry took off in the decades preceding the twentieth century...

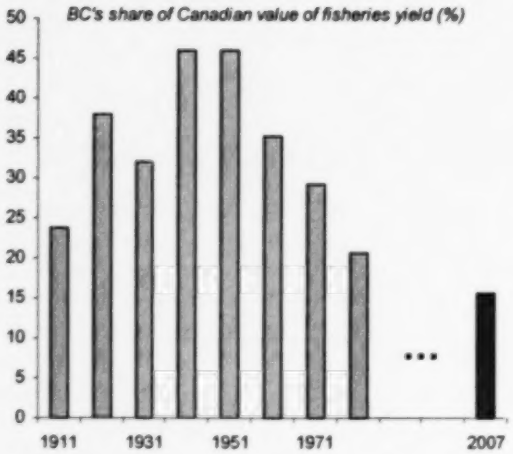


Data source: Canada Year Book (1900)

Salmon was by far the most important catch, accounting for 70% of total provincial value. Halibut was valued second highest, followed by herring. At the turn of the nineteenth century, there were about 20,000 British Columbians employed in primary fishing operations, or 14% of the provincial population.

Growth of the fishing industry continued into the twentieth century and for the most part, BC's share of Canadian fishery value fluctuated between about 20% and 45%.

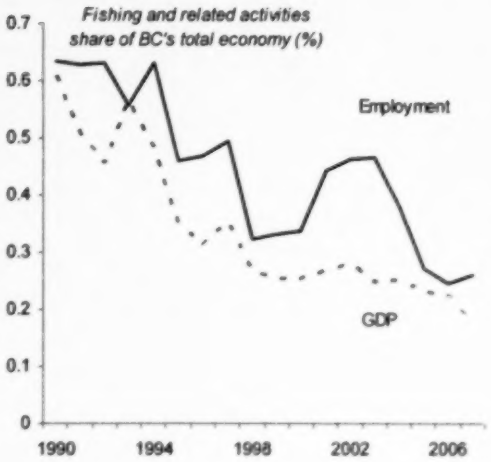
...but has taken a downturn in more recent years



Data source: Statistics Canada

Toward the end of the twentieth century, the commercial industry took a downturn due to government regulations and growing concerns regarding salmon survival. By 2007, BC's contribution to Canadian fishery value had fallen to 16%. Additionally, only 0.3% of provincial employment was attributed to fishing and related activities (including hunting, trapping, and seafood production and packaging), down from 0.6% in 1990. At the same time, the industry's share of GDP in fell from 0.61% to 0.17%.

BC's fishing and related activities comprise a small share of provincial GDP and employment



Data source: Statistics Canada

Agriculture

Compared to the Prairie provinces, a scarcity of arable land in BC has limited the province's economic dependence on agriculture. While about half of Canadians worked in agriculture at the turn of the twentieth century, only one in five British Columbians did.

Vegetable farming initially began during the Fraser River gold rush to feed the growing population, although domestic production of agricultural products did not exceed imports until around 1911. Agricultural regions included Vancouver Island, the Fraser Valley, and Lytton. The following is an estimate of the financial expenditures required to establish a small, unspecialized farm at that time:

Food processing, such as canning of vegetables, became an important contributor to the local economy during the first half of the twentieth century.

Farming in BC changed dramatically during the twentieth century. On average, farms decreased in size during the first decade.

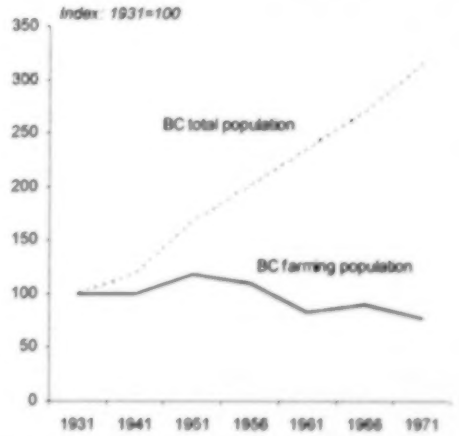
House	$575
Barns	$240
Furniture	$150
Wagons and Implements	$150
Horses	$220
Cattle	$100
Pigs and Chickens	$25
Fruit, Trees and Seeds	$125
Fencing and Gates	$50
Miscellaneous	$50
TOTAL	$1,685

Data source: The Ministry of Agriculture and Land

Whereas most farms in 1901 were larger than a hundred acres, by 1911, most were smaller than fifty acres. Composition of farm products also fluctuated in the first half of last century. While the share of field crops diminished between 1900 and 1930, animal products became increasingly important to the total value of farm products in British Columbia.

Relative to total residents, BC's farming population has declined substantially over the last hundred years. By 2006, it represented less than 2% of the provincial population, down from 15% in 1931.

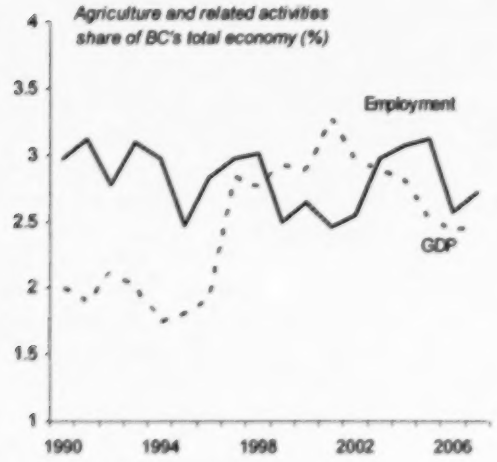
While BC's total population has taken off, its farming population has fallen



Data source: British Columbia Census of Agriculture (1931) and Statistics Canada

Currently, total farm cash receipts in BC make up about 6% of all Canadian receipts, ranking sixth among the provinces. Those working in agriculture and related activities (including food, beverage and tobacco manufacturing) comprise just under 3% of total employment in the province, relatively the same share as in 1990. Meanwhile, activities related to agriculture contributed slightly more to provincial GDP in 2007 (2.5%) than in 1990 (2.0%).

Agriculture-related share of employment is about the same as in 1990



Data source: Statistics Canada

International Trade

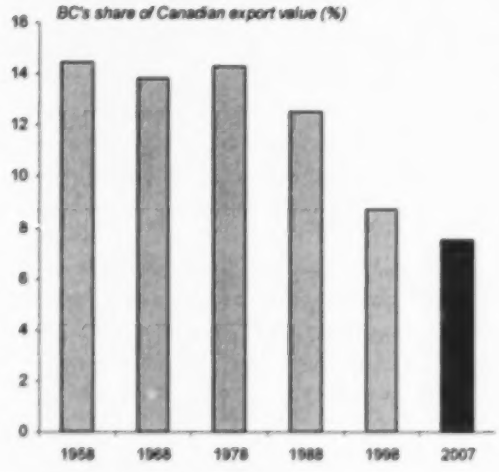
Overall, the value of exports from British Columbia in 1872 (the earliest record) was just short of $2 million, representing about 2% of the national total. As resource industries expanded, BC's share of exports climbed to 11% by 1901. Meanwhile, imports for domestic consumption increased from 2% to 6% over the same time period.

Strong world demand for resources following World War II initiated economic growth in BC and by 1958, exports from the province made up about 14% of total Canadian export value.

BC exports boomed toward the end of the nineteenth century

Data source: Canada Year Book (1900)

BC's share of Canadian exports has fallen over the last fifty years



Data source: Statistics Canada

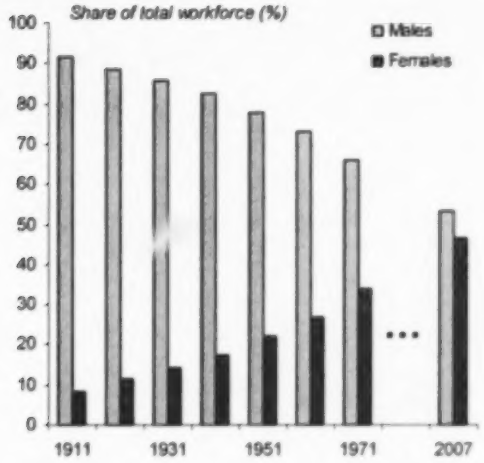
Recently, the province's exports have slowed considerably, largely due to a lagging forest industry. In 2007, the value of BC's exports comprised roughly 8% of the national total.

Women

At the turn of the twentieth century, it was rare for women in British Columbia to work outside of the home. Only 8% of women were part of the workforce in 1911 and for those who were, 60% worked as servants, dressmakers, or teachers. By 1911, job opportunities for women in Vancouver were still limited, but by this time almost one in five working women were employed as saleswomen or office employees. Canning of salmon was also considered an "acceptable" job for women, since it was deemed similar to their typical duties at home.

Today, women make up almost half of the workforce and are able to choose from a broad range of occupations.

Women make up almost half of the workforce today, compared to less than 10% a century ago



Data source: Statistics Canada

About fifty years ago, male salary employees made more than double what a female earned. ($113/week compared to $55/week). By 2007, average weekly earnings were about $745/week, although men still earned more ($868/week) than women ($623/week).

Conclusion

Things have changed considerably for British Columbians over the past 150 years. The province's dependence on natural resources has diminished as the economy has diversified. Historically, fishing, forestry, mining and agriculture provided a foundation for BC's economy, whereas today (including related activities such as manufacturing of wood and food products) they account for only 14% of GDP.

With recent challenges facing the forest industry, such as the Mountain Pine Beetle and slumping lumber prices, regional economies are broadening. The province has also welcomed new industries, such as tourism and the high-tech industry to its growing economy.

BC's service sector, which includes retail and wholesale trade, health care, and finance, insurance and real estate, contributes the most to provincial GDP and also provides most jobs. The goods-producing sector also employs a substantial portion of British Columbians, although mostly in manufacturing and construction rather than in primary fishing, forestry, mining, and agriculture industries.

Sources:

Canada Year Book: 1900, 1911, 1960
Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa

Seventh Census of Canada (1931)
British Columbia Census of Agriculture

Statistics Canada
http://www.statcan.ca

British Columbia Archives Time Machine
http://www.bcarchives.bc.ca/bcarchives

Natural Resources Canada
Http://www.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca/com

BC Ferries
http://www.bcferries.com/about/history

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Email transmission information service from BC Stats

also on the Internet at www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca

BC at a glance . . .

POPULATION (thousands)	Oct 1/08	% change on one year ago
BC	4,405.5	1.6
Canada	33,441.3	1.2
GDP and INCOME (Revised Nov 6)		
(BC - at market prices)	2007	% change on one year ago
Gross Domestic Product (GDP) *($ millions)*	192,528	5.4
GDP *($ 2002 millions)*	164,583	3.0
GDP *($ 2002 per Capita) (reflects revised pop)*	38,184	1.4
Personal Disposable Income *($ 2002 per Capita)*	25,282	3.1
TRADE ($ millions, seasonally adjusted)		% change on prev. month
Manufacturing Shipments - Dec	2,959	-8.7
Merchandise Exports - Dec	2,453	-14.8
Retail Sales - Dec	4,279	-5.6
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX	% change on one year ago	12-month avg % change
(all items - Jan 2009)		
BC	1.4	2.2
Vancouver	1.6	2.4
Victoria	1.5	1.9
Canada	1.1	2.3
LABOUR FORCE (thousands)		% change on prev. month
(seasonally adjusted)	Jan '09	
Labour Force - BC	2,415	-0.7
Employed - BC	2,268	-1.5
Unemployed - BC	148	13.7
		Dec '08
Unemployment Rate - BC *(percent)*	6.1	5.3
Unemployment Rate - Canada *(percent)*	7.2	6.6
INTEREST RATES (percent)	Feb 25/09	Feb 27/08
Prime Business Rate	3.00	5.75
Conventional Mortgages - 1 year	5.00	7.25
- 5 year	5.79	7.29
US-CANADA EXCHANGE RATE	Feb 25/09	Feb 27/08
(avg. noon spot rate) Cdn $ per US $	1.2556	0.9778
(closing rate) US $ per Cdn $	0.7971	1.0197
AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE RATE		% change on one year ago
(industrial aggregate - dollars)	Jan '09	
BC	799.72	3.6
Canada	804.02	4.4

SOURCES:

Population, Gross Domestic Product, Trade, Prices, Labour Force, Wage Rate } Statistics Canada

Interest Rates, Exchange Rates: Bank of Canada Weekly Financial Statistics

For latest Weekly Financial Statistics see www.bankofcanada.ca

BC Population Projection to 2036

BC Stats' population projections by age and sex and components of growth are now released for 2009–2036. These new projections are now based from updated provincial historical estimates from Statistics Canada.

www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/pop/pop/popproj.asp

BC Population by Age and Sex

Annual population estimates by age and sex now released for 2008, plus revisions back to 1986. Figures are available for various provincial administrative regions.

www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/pop/pop/estspop.asp#agesex

2008 Municipal Population

New and historical estimates include revisions based on final net census undercoverage information from Statistics Canada.

www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/pop/pop/estspop.asp#totpop

2008 Building Permits

Preliminary December figures allow us to publish preliminary annual totals.

www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/bus_stat/econ_stat.asp#otherstat

Provincial Electoral District Profiles

Our series of profiles for each of the 85 electoral districts that will be contested in the provincial general election scheduled for May 12, 2009. Based on the 2006 Census; 27 pages each.

www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/cen06/profiles/peds/ped_06.asp

Released this week by BC Stats

- Current Statistics, February 2009

Next week

- Business Indicators, February 2009
- Tourism Sector Monitor, February 2009
- Labour Force Statistics, February 2009
- Earnings & Employment Trends, February 2009

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